

*Washington!*

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A Funeral Oration  
ON HIS DEATH,  
By MAJ. GEN. LEE.

ALSO

AN EULOGY:  
By JUDGE MINOT.

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PRICE ONE SHILLING.

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A  
FUNERAL ORATION  
On the Death of  
GEORGE WASHINGTON

LATE PRESIDENT & COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
OF THE ARMIES OF THE UNITED  
STATES OF AMERICA,

Who departed this Life at Mount Vernon in Virginia, on  
the 14th of Dec. 1799, in the 68th year of his age.

DELIVERED

AT THE REQUEST OF CONGRESS,

BY MAJOR-GENERAL HENRY LEE,  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM VIRGINIA.

TO WHICH IS SUBJOINED,

AN EULOGY:

By JUDGE MINOT.

London :

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BROWN, JAMES, & COTTLE, Bristol.

1800

UNITED STATES

OF THE DISTRICT OF

GEORGE WASHINGTON

THE SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT OF  
THE DISTRICT OF GEORGE WASHINGTON  
STATES OF AMERICA

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the District of George Washington, at the City of Washington, this 1st day of January, 1862.

JOHN A. BROWN

THE SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT OF

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT

THE DISTRICT OF GEORGE WASHINGTON

DO hereby certify that



W. A. BROWN

THE SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT OF

JOHN A. BROWN

THE SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT OF

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT

THE DISTRICT OF GEORGE WASHINGTON

DO hereby certify that

W. A. BROWN

THE SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT OF





## Funeral Oration.

[REDACTED]

IN obedience to your\* will, I rise your humble organ, with the hope of executing a part of the system of public mourning which you have been pleased to adopt, commemorative of the death of the most illustrious and most beloved personage this country has ever produced; and which, while it transmits to posterity your sense of the awful event, faintly represents your knowledge of the consummate excellence you so cordially honour.

DESPERATE indeed is any attempt on earth to meet correspondently this dispensation of heaven; for, while with pious resignation we submit to the will of an all-gracious Providence, we can never cease lamenting, in our finite view of Omnipotent Wisdom, the heart-rending privation for which our nation weeps. When the civilized world shakes to its centre; when every moment gives birth to strange and momentous changes; when our peaceful quarter of the globe, exempt as it happily has been from any share in the slaughter of the human race, may yet be compelled to abandon her pacific policy, and to risk the doleful casualties

\* The two Houses of Congress.

of war: what limit is there to the extent of our loss?—None within the reach of my words to express; none which your feelings will not disavow.

THE founder of our federate republic—our bulwark in war, our guide in peace, is no more! Oh that this were but questionable! Hope, the comforter of the wretched, would pour into our agonizing hearts its balmy dew. But, alas! there is no hope for us; our WASHINGTON is removed for ever! Possessing the stoutest frame and purest mind, he had passed nearly to his sixty-eighth year, in the enjoyment of high health, when habituated by his care of us to neglect himself, a slight cold disregarded, became inconvenient on Friday, oppressive on Saturday, and defying every medical interposition, before the morning of Sunday, put an end to the best of men. An end did I say?—his fame survives! bounded only by the limits of the earth, and by the extent of the human mind. He survives in our hearts, in the growing knowledge of our children, in the affection of the good, throughout the world; and when our monuments shall be done away; when nations now existing shall be no more; when even our young and far-spreading empire shall have perished, still will our WASHINGTON's glory unfaded shine, and die not, until love of virtue cease on earth, or earth itself sinks into chaos.

How, my fellow citizens, shall I single to your grateful hearts his pre-eminent worth! Where shall I begin in opening to your view a character throughout sublime! Shall I speak of his warlike achievements, all springing from obedience to his country's will—all directed to his country's good?

WILL you go with me to the Banks of the Monagahela, to see your youthful WASHINGTON,

supporting, in the dismal hour of Indian victory, the ill-fated Braddock; and saving, by his judgment and by his valour, the remains of a defeated army, pressed by the conquering savage foe? Or, when—oppressed America nobly resolving to risk her all in defence of her violated rights—he was elevated by the unanimous voice of Congress to the command of her armies? Will you follow him to the high grounds of Boston, where to an undisciplined, courageous, and virtuous yeomanry, his presence gave the stability of system, and infused the invincibility of love of country? or shall I carry you to the painful scenes of Long Island, York Island, and New-Jersey, when, combating superior and gallant armies, aided by powerful fleets, and led by chiefs high in the roll of fame, he stood the bulwark of our safety; undismayed by disaster; unchanged by change of fortune? Or will you view him in the precarious fields of Trenton, where deep gloom unnerving every arm, reigned triumphant through our thinned, worn down, unaided ranks; himself unmoved?—Dreadful was the night! It was about this time of winter—the storm raged—the Delaware, rolling furiously with floating ice, forbade the approach of man. WASHINGTON, self-collected, viewed the tremendous scene: his country called; unappalled by surrounding dangers, he passed to the hostile shore; he fought; he conquered. The morning sun cheered the American world. Our country rose on the event; and her dauntless Chief pursuing his blow, completed in the lawns of Princeton, what his vast soul had conceived on the shores of Delaware.

THENCE to the strong grounds of Morristown he led his small but gallant band; and through an eventful winter, by the high efforts of his genius, whose matchless force was measurable only by the growth of difficulties, he held in check formi-



dable hostile legions, conducted by a chief experienced in the art of war, and famed for his valour on the ever-memorable heights of Abraham, where fell Wolfe, Montcalm, and since our much-lamented Montgomery—all covered with glory. In this fortunate interval, produced by his masterly conduct, our fathers, ourselves, animated by his resistless example, rallied around our country's standard, and continued to follow her beloved Chief through the various and trying scenes to which the destinies of our union led.

Who is there that has forgotten the vales of Brandywine—the fields of Germantown—or the plains of Monmouth? Every where present, wants of every kind obstructing, numerous and valiant armies encountering, himself a host, he assuaged our sufferings, limited our privations, and upheld our tottering Republic. Shall I display to you the spread of the fire of his soul, by rehearsing the praises of the Hero of Saratoga, and his much lov'd compeer of the Carolinas? No! our WASHINGTON wears not borrowed glory: To Gates—to Greene, he gave without reserve the applause due to their eminent merit; and long may the Chiefs of Saratoga, and of Eutaws, receive the grateful respect of a grateful people.

MOVING in his own orbit, he imparted heat and light to his most distant satellites; and combining the physical and moral force of all within his sphere, with irresistible weight he took his course, commiserating folly, disdaining vice, dimaying treason, and invigorating despondency; until the auspicious hour arrived, when, united with the intrepid forces of a potent and magnanimous ally, he brought to submission the since conquerer of India; thus finishing his long career of military glory with a lustre corresponding to his great name, and in this his last act of war affixing the seal of fate to our nation's birth.



To the horrid din of battle sweet peace succeeded; and our virtuous Chief, mindful only of the common good, in a moment tempting personal aggrandizement, hushed the discontents of growing sedition; and, surrendering his power into the hands from which he had received it, converted his sword into a ploughshare; teaching an admiring world that to be truly great, you must be truly good.

WERE I to stop here, the picture would be incomplete, and the task imposed unfinished—Great as was our WASHINGTON in war, and as much as did that greatness contribute to produce the American Republic, it is not in war alone his pre-eminence stands conspicuous: His various talents, combining all the capacities of a statesman with those of a soldier, fitted him alike to guide the councils and the armies of our nation. Scarcely had he rested from his martial toils, while his invaluable parental advice was still sounding in our ears, when he who had been our shield and our sword, was called forth to act a less splendid but more important part.

POSSESSING a clear and penetrating mind, a strong and sound judgment, calmness and temper for deliberation, with invincible firmness and perseverance in resolutions maturely formed, drawing information from all, acting from himself, with incorruptible integrity and unvarying patriotism: his own superiority and the public confidence alike marked him as the man designed by heaven to lead in the great political as well as military events which have distinguished the era of his life.

THE finger of an over-ruling Providence, pointing at WASHINGTON, was neither mistaken nor unobserved; when, to realise the vast hopes

to which our revolution had given birth, a change of political system became indispensable.

How novel, how grand the spectacle! Independent States stretched over an immense territory, and known only by common difficulty, clinging to their union as the rock of their safety; deciding by frank comparison of their relative condition, to rear on that rock, under the guidance of reason, a common government; through whose commanding protection, liberty and order, with their long train of blessings, should be safe to themselves, and the sure inheritance of their posterity.

THIS arduous task devolved on citizens selected by the people, from knowledge of their wisdom and confidence in their virtue. In this august assembly of sages and of patriots, WASHINGTON of course was found; and, as if acknowledged to be most wise, where all were wise, with one voice he was declared their Chief. How well he merited this rare distinction, how faithful were the labours of himself and his compatriots, the work of their hands and our union, strength and prosperity, the fruits of that work, best attest.

BUT to have essentially aided in presenting to his country this consummation of her hopes, neither satisfied the claims of his fellow-citizens on his talents, nor those duties which the possession of those talents imposed. Heaven had not infused into his mind such an uncommon share of its ethereal spirit to remain unemployed, nor bestowed on him his genius unaccompanied with the corresponding duty of devoting it to the common good. To have framed a constitution, was shewing only, without realizing, the general happiness. This great work remained to be done; and America, steadfast in her preference, with one voice

summoned her beloved WASHINGTON, unpractised as he was in the duties of civil administration, to execute this last act in the completion of the national felicity. Obedient to her call, he assumed the high office with that self-distrust peculiar to his innate modesty, the constant attendant of pre-eminent virtue. What was the burst of joy through our anxious land on this exhilarating event is known to us all. The aged, the young, the brave, the fair, rivalled each other in demonstrations of their gratitude; and this high-wrought delightful scene was heightened in its effect, by the singular contest between the zeal of the bestowers and the avoidance of the receiver of the honours bestowed. Commencing his administration,—what heart is not charmed with the recollection of the pure and wise principles announced by himself, as the basis of his political life. He best understood the indissoluble union between virtue and happiness, between duty and advantage, between the genuine maxims of an honest and magnanimous policy, and the solid rewards of public prosperity and individual felicity; watching with an equal and comprehensive eye over this great assemblage of communities and interests, he laid the foundations of our national policy in the unerring immutable principles of morality based on religion; exemplifying the pre-eminence of a free government, by all the attributes which win the affections of its citizens, or command the respect of the world.

“O fortunatus nimium, sua si bona norint!”

LEADING through the complicated difficulties produced by previous obligations and conflicting interests, seconded by succeeding Houses of Congress enlightened and patriotic, he surmounted all original obstruction, and brightened the path of our national felicity.



THE Presidential term expiring, his solicitude to exchange exaltation for humility returned with a force increased with increase of age; and he had prepared his farewell address to his countrymen, proclaiming his intention, when the united interposition of all around him, enforced by the eventful prospects of the epoch, produced a further sacrifice of inclination to duty. The election of President followed, and WASHINGTON, by the unanimous vote of the nation, was called to resume the Chief Magistracy. What a wonderful fixture of confidence! Which attracts most our admiration, a people so correct, or a citizen combining an assemblage of talents forbidding rivalry, and stifling even envy itself! Such a nation ought to be happy; such a chief must be for ever revered.

WAR, long menaced by the Indian tribes, now broke out; and the terrible conflict, deluging Europe with blood, began to shed its baneful influence over our happy land. To the first, outstretching his invincible arm, under the orders of the gallant Wayne, the American Eagle soared triumphant through distant forests. Peace followed victory; and the melioration of the condition of the enemy followed peace—Godlike virtue, which uplifts even the subdued savage!

To the second, he opposed himself. New and delicate was the conjuncture, and great was the stake. Soon did his penetrating mind discern and seize the only course, continuing to us all the felicity enjoyed. He issued his proclamation of neutrality. This index to his whole subsequent conduct, was sanctioned by the approbation of both Houses of Congress, and by the approving voice of the people.

To this sublime policy he inviolably adhered,



unmoved by foreign intrusion, unshaken by domestic turbulence.

- " Justum et tenacem propositi virum,
- " Non civium ardor prava jubentium,
- " Non vultus instantis tyranni,
- " Mente quatit solida."

MAINTAINING his pacific system at the expense of no duty, America, faithful to herself, and unstained in her honour, continued to enjoy the delights of peace, while afflicted Europe mourns in every quarter under the accumulated miseries of an unexampled war; miseries in which our happy country must have shared, had not our pre-eminent WASHINGTON been as firm in council as he was brave in the field.

PURSUING steadfastly his course, he held safe the public happiness, preventing foreign war, and quelling internal discord, till the revolving period of a third election approached, when he executed his interrupted but inextinguishable desire of returning to the humble walks of private life.

THE promulgation of his fixed resolution stopped the anxious wishes of an affectionate people, from adding a third unanimous testimonial of their unabated confidence in the man so long enthroned in their hearts. When before was affection like this exhibited on earth?—Turn over the records of ancient Greece—Review the annals of mighty Rome—Examine the volumes of modern Europe;—you search in vain.—AMERICA and her WASHINGTON only afford the dignified exemplification.

THE illustrious personage called by the national voice in succession to the arduous office of guiding a free people, had new difficulties to encounter:

The amicable effort of settling our difficulties with France, begun by WASHINGTON, and pursued by his successor in virtue as in station, proving abortive, America took measures of self-defence. No sooner was the public mind roused by a prospect of danger, than every eye was turned to the friend of all, though secluded from public view, and grey in public service. The virtuous veteran, following his plough\*, received the unexpected summons with mingled emotions of indignation at the unmerited ill-treatment of his country, and of a determination once more to risk his all in her defence.

THE annunciation of these feelings, in his affecting letter to the President, accepting the command of the army, concludes his official conduct.

FIRST in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen, he was second to none in the humble and endearing scenes of private life: Pious, just, humane, temperate, and sincere; uniform, dignified, and commanding; his example was as edifying to all around him as were the effects of that example lasting.

To his equals he was condescending; to his inferiors kind; and to the dear object of his affections exemplarily tender: Correct throughout, vice shuddered in his presence, and virtue always felt his fostering hand; the purity of his private character gave effulgence to his public virtues.

His last scene comported with the whole tenor of his life: Although in extreme pain, not a sigh, not a groan escaped him; and with undisturbed serenity he closed his well-spent life. Such was the man

\* General WASHINGTON, though opulent, gave much of his time to practical agriculture.

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America has lost!—Such was the man for whom our nation mourns!

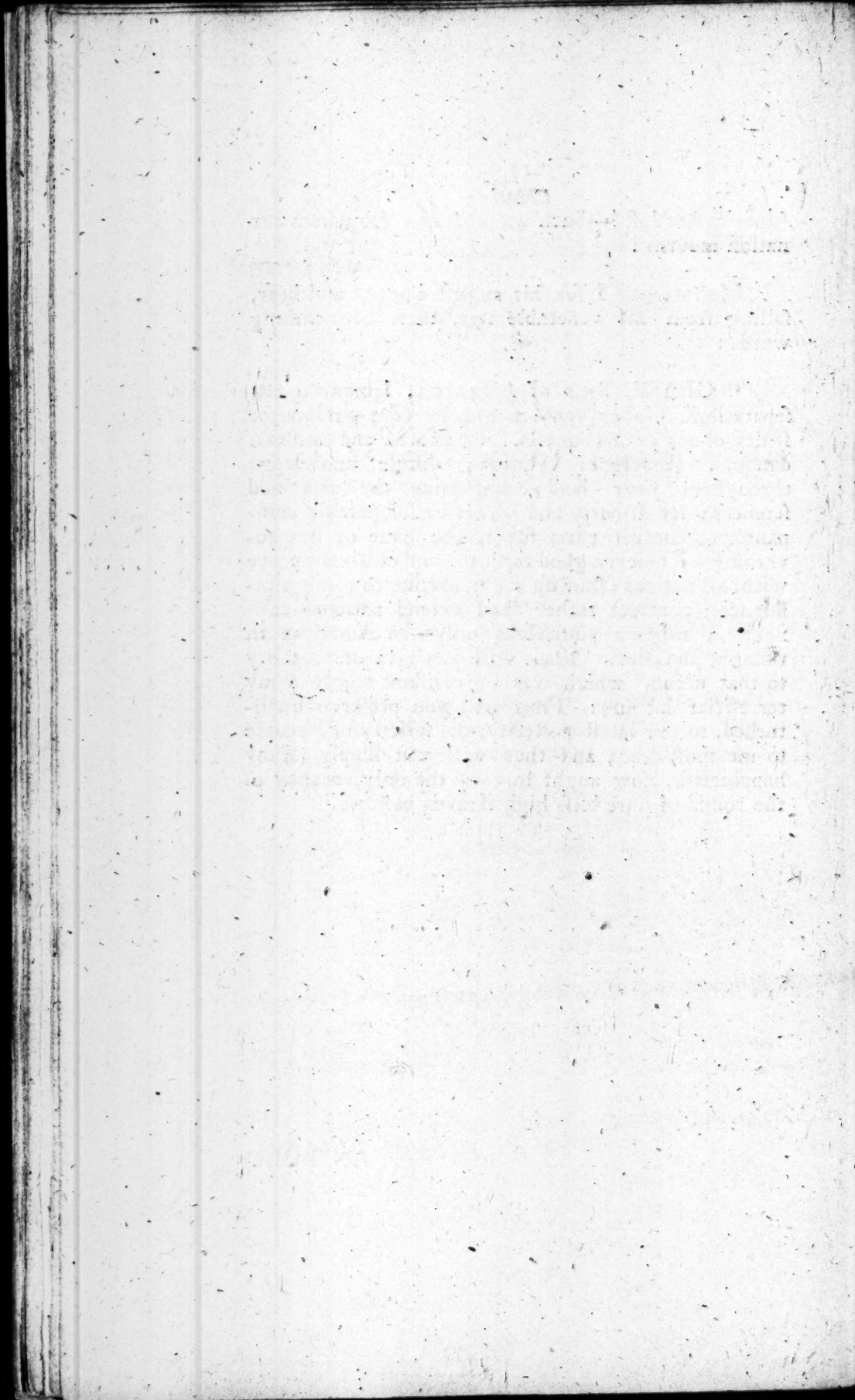
METHINKS I see his august image, and hear, falling from his venerable lips, these deep-sinking words:

“ CEASE, Sons of AMERICA, lamenting our separation: Go on, and confirm by your wisdom the fruits of our joint councils, joint efforts, and common dangers. Reverence religion; diffuse knowledge throughout your land; patronize the arts and sciences; let Liberty and Order be inseparable companions; control party-spirit, the bane of free government; observe good faith to, and cultivate peace with, all nations; shut up every avenue to foreign influence; contract rather than extend national connexion; rely on yourselves only—be American in thought and deed. Thus will you give immortality to that union, which was the constant object of my terrestrial labours: Thus will you preserve undisturbed, to the latest posterity, the felicity of a people to me most dear; and thus will you supply (if my happiness is now aught to you) the only vacancy in the round of pure bliss high Heaven bestows.”

STW

AN EULO.







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AN EULOGY:  
ON  
GEN. GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Delivered  
BEFORE THE INHABITANTS OF  
THE TOWN OF BOSTON,  
*AT THE REQUEST OF THEIR COMMITTEE.*



BY GEORGE RICHARDS MINOT, A.M. A.A.S.

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ANALOGY

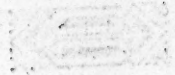
OR

GEORGE WASHINGTON

DEATH

THE TOWN OF BOSTON

THE TOWN OF BOSTON



IN GEORGE WASHINGTON

Boston, *January 9, 1800.*

SIR,

I am directed by the Committee of Arrangements, to express to you their acknowledgements, for your compliance with their wishes, in delivering an Eulogium this day in honour of the late General WASHINGTON; to assure you of the pleasing though melancholy sensations with which they heard your able delineation of the character of that illustrious man; and to request a copy for the press.

I am, Sir,

With respect and esteem,

Your most obedient Servant,

CHARLES BULFINCH.

Hon. George Richards Minot, Esq.

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Boston, *January 9, 1800.*

SIR,

The respectable Committee of Arrangements honour me greatly by their approbation of the manner in which I have executed the duty assigned to me by their appointment. I consider the disposal of my production to be their right, and deliver the copy requested, with regret only that I could do no more, upon an occasion which deserved every thing that eloquence could bestow.

I am, Sir,

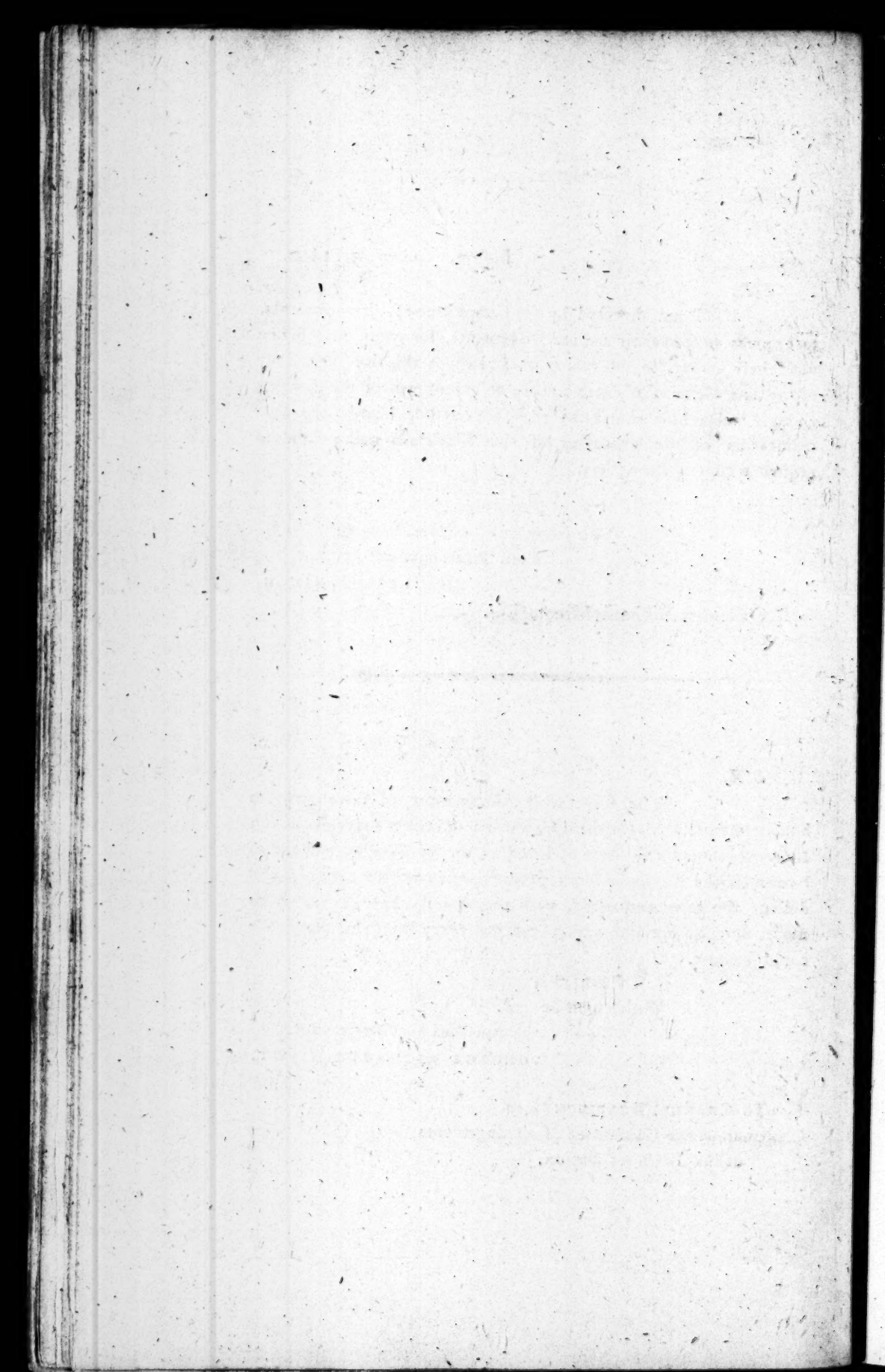
With much regard,

Your very respectful humble Servant,

GEORGE RICHARDS MINOT.

To CHARLES BULFINCH, Esq.

Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements  
of the Town of Boston.







### An Eulogy.

OUR Duty, my Fellow-Townsmen, on this distressing occasion, is dictated by the dignity and resplendent virtue of the beloved Man whose death we deplore. We assemble to pay a debt to departed merit—a debt which we can only pay by the sincerity of our grief, and the respectful effusions of gratitude; for the highest eulogy left us to bestow upon our lamented WASHINGTON, is the strict narration of the truth; and the loftiest character which we can assign to him, is the very display of himself. When ambition allies itself to guilt, when power tramples upon right, when victory triumphs in blood, when piety sits clouded in superstition, when humility is affected by cunning, when patriotism is founded on selfishness; then let adulation spread her prostituted mantle, to screen the disgraces of her patrons, and amuse with the falsehoods of

her imagination. But to our political Father the faithful page of history is panegyric, and the happiness of his country is the monument of his fame.

Come then, Warriors! Statesmen! Philosophers! Citizens!—assemble round the tomb of this favourite son of virtue; with all the luxury of sorrow recollect the important events of his life, and partake of the greatest legacy which a mortal could bequeath you, in the contemplation of his example. Whilst we solemnize this act, his disembodied spirit, if it be permitted to retrace the scenes of its terrestrial existence, will smile with approbation on the instructive rite.

YOUR anniversaries have long honoured the eleventh of February, one thousand seven hundred and thirty two, as the birth-day of our illustrious Chief; and the parish of his own name in Westmoreland county in Virginia, boasts itself the place of his nativity. But to souls like his local restrictions are not attached. Where liberty was, there would be his country: Happy for us, the genius of liberty, responsive to his affections, resolved that where WASHINGTON was, there also should be her abode.

EDUCATED by private instruction, his virtue grew with his knowledge, and the useful branches of literature occupied the whole powers of his mind. Exemplary for solidity of thought, and chastity of morals, he was honoured by the government of Virginia with an important mission, at an age when the levities of the human character seldom yield to the earliest operation of reason.

At the opening of the great war of incroachments upon our western frontiers, he was the bearer

of the remonstrance to the French. Such was the address, fidelity, and perseverance, with which he executed this important trust, that he was honoured at twenty-two years of age with the command of a regiment raised by his province. His military talents were soon called to the test. At Redstone, victory perched upon his standard; but, with that volatility by which she tries the powers of her favourite heroes, she in a few months afterwards left him, by his own exertions, to save the honours of war for his little band, in an unequal, but well-supported battle. In Braddock's slaughtered army, he was a witness to scenes of horror, which his caution, had it been adopted, would have prevented, and which his steady courage assisted much to retrieve. During the remainder of this war, he was employed in fortifying his native province, in arranging and perfecting its militia, and in checking the incursions of the enemy, until the crisis of the contest had passed in this country, when he resigned his command.

RETIREMENT to him was only a different mode of action, and his repose partook not of indolence. Amidst the honourable pursuits of agriculture, he discharged various civil offices, until we find him rising amongst the patriots of our country, as a delegate from Virginia, in the first American Congress.

We shall ever remember the fifteenth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, when Providence directed to his appointment as the commander in chief of our revolutionary army. In this neighbourhood, he first drew his sword. Many of you, my fellow-townsmen, were then languishing under the fetters of tyranny, or were imprisoned within the joyless confines of your own habitations. Your hope was fixed on him. His command, independent of the resources of his own mind, afforded no ground for the support of your feelings. He had an army, brave indeed, but with little discipline; naked



at the approach of winter ; and almost subject to dissolution from temporary enlistments ; a paymaster without money ; a commissary struggling on the utmost stretch of credit. A veteran army lay under his eye, strongly fortified, regularly paid, warmly clothed, and boasting its superiority to militia. Yet did his victorious sword relieve you, and save your city. Justly have you ascribed " your reinstatement to his wise arrangements, which compelled your invaders to adopt a less destructive policy than that which, on other occasions, they so wantonly practised." Cou'd our gratitude forget it, the heights around us bear the triumphant evidence of his conquest.

To trace this protector of our liberties through his unrivalled career, from his gloomy retreat through the Jerseys to his several victories and his splendid triumph at York-Town, would be to narrate the varying history of our revolution. To him, public labour was amusement, suffering in the cause of freedom was a luxury, and every hour as it flew carried an offering to his country.

As obedience to the voice of his oppressed fellow-citizens drew his sword on the approach of war ; so at the declaration of peace, by the same respected voice, he restored it to its scabbard. He left them *his* blessing and *their* liberties. O Human Nature, how hast thou been traduced ! With thee, has it been said, is essentially connected that lust of power which is insatiable ; which restores not voluntarily what has been committed to its charge ; which devours all rights, and resolves all laws into its own authority ; which labours not for others, but seizes the fruits of their labours for itself ; which breaks down all barriers of religion, society, and nature, that obstruct its course ; now art thou vindicated ! Here we behold thee allied to virtue, worn in the service of mankind, superior to the meanness of compensation, humbly hoping for the thanks of thy country alone, faithfully

surrendering the sword with which thou wast entrusted, and yielding up power with a promptness and facility equalled only by the diffidence and reluctance with which thou receivedst it.

Now, will the future inquirer say, this hero has finished the task assigned him; the measure of his glory is full. A world is admitted to freedom—a nation is born. Favoured beyond the leader of Israel, not only with the prospect, but with the fruition of the promised blessing, he has retired, like that prince of meekness, to the *Mount*, whence he is to ascend, unseen by a weeping people, to the reward of all his labours. No! he is to live another life upon this globe; he is to reap a double harvest in the field of perennial honour. The people, whom he has saved from external tyranny, suffer from the agitations of their own unsettled powers. The tree of liberty which he has planted, and so carefully guarded from the storms, now flourishes beyond its strength; its lofty excrescences threaten to tear its extended roots from the earth, and to prostrate it fruitless on the plain. But,—He comes! in Convention he presides over councils, as in war he had led the battle; the Constitution, like the rainbow after the flood, appears to us now just emerging from an overwhelming commotion; and we know the truth of the pledge from the sanction of his name.

THE production was worthy of its authors, and of the magnanimous people whom it was intended to establish. You adopt it, you cherish it, and you resolve to transmit it, with the name of WASHINGTON, to the latest generation, who shall prove their just claim to such an illustrious descent.

WHO was so worthy as our great legislator, to direct the operations of a government which his counsels and his sword had laboured to erect? By an unanimous suffrage, he was invited to the exalted station

of President of the United States. The call was too sacred to admit of doubt: it superseded the happiness of retirement, the demands of private interest, the sweet attractions of domestic society, and the hazard (forgive it, WASHINGTON! for thou wast mortal) the hazard of public reputation. Behold the man, on this occasion so mighty in the eye of all the world, so humble in his own! He accepts the high appointment with such distrust of his natural endowments, with such diffidence in his capacity, as can be relieved only by his reliance on that almighty BEING, "who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations, and whose providential aids can supply every human defect."

ONE of the earliest acts of his administration was that circular visit to transfuse his love, and receive the grateful benedictions of his loving countrymen, in which you, my fellow townsmen, partook so liberal a share. What sensations rushed upon your minds, when you compared the dreadful aspect of your besieged city with its now smiling condition. The well-cultivated fields were screening from view the late terrific ramparts of the enemy, and the groans of the distressed had yielded to the busy noise of commerce and pleasure. How grateful now is the recollection, that with tears of joy you crowded to meet him in your streets, displaying the very insignia which you this day bear in mournful procession; and your children, bowing their heads with eager solicitude to attract his fatherly eye, received his pious blessing.

DID the occasion admit of it, how pleasing would be the review of his administration, as our Supreme Executive Magistrate? His talents and his virtues increased with his cares. His soul seemed not to bear the limits of office, a moment after the obligations of duty and patriotism withdrew their restraints from his universal love. When the misguided savages of the wilderness,



after feeling his chastisement, had sued for peace, he seemed to labour for their happiness as the common representative of mankind. Insurrection was so struck at his countenance, that it fled from the shock of his arms. Intrigue attempted to entangle him in her poisonous web, but he burst it with gigantic strength, and crushed her labours. Anarchy looked out from her cavern, and was dashed into oblivion, as we trust, forever. The nations of Europe saw the wisdom of our laws, the vigour of our measures, the justice of our policy, the firmness of our government, and acquiesced in the neutrality of our station.

THE dangers of the Commonwealth having subsided at the close of his second administration, he felt himself justified, after dedicating forty-five years of his valuable life to her service, in withdrawing to receive with resignation the great change of nature, which his age and his toils demonstrated to be near. When he declined your future suffrages, he left you a legacy.—What! like Cesar's to the Romans, money for your sports?—like Attalus', a kingdom for your tyranny?—No; he left you not such baubles, nor for such purposes. He left you the records of wisdom for your government: a mirror for the faithful representation to your own view, of yourselves, your weaknesses, your advantages, your dangers:—a magnet which points to the secret mines and windings of party spirit, faction, foreign influence: a pillar to the unity of your republic: a band to inclose, conciliate, and strengthen the whole of your wonderful and almost boundless communities. Read, preserve the sacred deposit; and, lest posterity should forget the truth of its maxims, engrave them on his tomb, that they may read them when they weep before it.

In his second resignation of power and the

charms of office, the American Leader appears superior to ancient or modern examples. Yet another grade was assigned to his virtue. Our national rights, so well defended at home, were invaded on the ocean. The alarm reaches his retreat; the honour of our Republic warms his heart; and he again accepts the sword for its defence from the hand of another, placed by the voice of the people in that supreme magistracy, which he alone had heretofore filled. With a less dignified soul, this official inferiority might have availed to injure his country; but he, who could descend from the head of a nation to discharge the minutest duties of a private citizen, was too great to allow the influence of etiquette to endanger the safety of the people. His condescension raises him above himself; his spirit fires all ranks of men; he is overwhelmed with the gratitude and applause of an enraptured nation.

WHILST we confide in his arm, and are marshalling our warriors to march under his banners, the GOD of armies, whose counsels are beyond the scrutiny of man, prepares for us the test of our submission to his chastising rod. It is decreed that our WASHINGTON shall die, but that his death shall be worthy of his life. He is to die by the hand of Virtue. The rapid disease which is selected as the instrument of his dissolution, instantaneously seizes him. His humanity delays the immediate aid to which alone it may yield. Inconsolable domestics! what storms would you not have braved, what hazard would you not have encountered, to save that life which was sacrificed to your comfort and safety! At length Science flies to save him. Alas! what avails its skill against the mandate of Heaven! It comes too late!—It is finished.

WONDERFUL event! Greatness departs in glory, and envy is silent! All acknowledge him to

be the first of citizens, and none feel hurt by his superiority. So impartial was he, that none impeach his justice; so moderate, none complain of his power; so magnanimous, his conquered enemies, applaud his humanity; so philanthropic, that neither colour, nor climate, nor religion, nor politics, could exclude the unfortunate from his succour. He had the habit of combining sentiment with action in such method and force, that he shed his benevolence on communities of men with the same ease as the sudden impulse of momentary sensibility bestows it upon individuals. Unexampled virtue!—allotted to its merited reward. Many founders of nations have been left to obtain from posterity that reputation which prejudice or bigotry has denied at their deaths. The tomb has been necessary to bury anger, petty interests, and emulation, which barred an equitable judgment. But, in regard to this sage, the gratitude of his country has been co-existent with his exertions. Time has not been required to remove him from our view, in order to magnify his exploits through the medium of fame; nor was it requisite that we should be deprived of the good he had done us, to entertain a just sense of its importance. Medals and statues have been decreed him when living; and your tears announce his greater triumph in your hearts, when dead. Disinterested love! What motives have you, freemen, for thus offering up your applause? He has now no shield to defend you from the invasions of your enemies; his head lies cold in the grave, and no counsel can arise from his lips. His eyes were closed by his own unshaken hand, and no smile can now beam from his countenance to animate your troops. Grateful Republicans! indeed you weep not from selfishness. Afflicted with the thought of the blessings which he has showered upon yourselves and your children, you would call him, could your voice be heard, from the closed mansions of the



dead, again to receive the tribute of your affection. You weep for her, whose tender participation in the anxieties of a husband relieved his cares, and protracted the invaluable life which love itself could no longer detain. Disconsolate woman, mourn not! for the faithful is gone to receive the reward of his uprightness. The whole desire of his heart, the whole pursuit of his labours, has been the good of his fellow-men. Contrast him with those who have been raised by the empty, the criminal admiration of mankind, to the highest ranks in the pantheon of fame. See one, instead of liberating and protecting, employed in conquering and enslaving a world, and weeping that his guilty task could be continued no longer. Another retiring from the purple, —not with the united blessings of all religious sects, but—the bigoted persecutor of the only rational and divine religion: See the master of so many crowns, after yielding them up for a convent, instead of interesting himself in the welfare of mankind to the hour of his departure, relapsing into the absurdities of monkish superstition: and another, whose ashes are scarcely cold, slaughtering the armies of half the nations of Europe, to extend the limits of an electorate, with as much zeal as our departed hero laboured to extend the limits of freedom, civilization, and morals. When so much worth steps off from the stage of life, the weakness of our nature is the only apology for our tears. Such an exit is not death, it is the triumph of the just.

Sons of Freedom! as you regard the memory of your ascended Chief, attend to the injunctions of his will. Remember that it was not for you alone he laboured. It was for your posterity also; it was for the human race. For you and for them he was first in building the noblest political system that adorns the world. It is an experiment to ascertain the nature of man; whether he

be capable of freedom, or whether he must be led by the reins of tyranny; whether he be endowed with that moderation and understanding which checks the extreme indulgence of his will, and by allowing to others the same rational enjoyment with himself, forms the liberty of the whole upon the partial restraint of each individual; or whether he must go on attempting to follow the dictates of selfishness, and find his only restraint in a power which will establish itself independent of his consent, and make him its slave. Who of us can be supposed to be so lost to himself, so forgetful of his children, and so traitorous to the world, as to contemplate the overthrow of this magnificent temple of wisdom? No, my Fellow-Townsmen! whatever zeal may suddenly suggest, or apprehensions tempt us to suspect, there lives not a man among us, so depraved, so cursed by Heaven. Shall it be said, that the works of his hands whom we this day almost adore; that the hope which he held out to the nations of the earth, shall be frustrated by our divisions? To the honour of our country, not a man but answers, No: all, when rightly informed, wave their particular prejudices in support of the great pillar of our national union. It is our pride; it was erected by our fathers; it is the standard of our defence. Let us then, with a view of forever maintaining it, banish all animosity, melt down all parties, wipe away all distinctions. Let us no longer designate men who have differed in sentiment, by odious epithets mutually reflected and mutually disavowed: but if a common name be wanted, let it be formed from his whom we now seek to honour; and let it be used to denote good will to one another, respect to our Constitution, fortitude to our enemies, love to our country, devotion to our God.

In the condolence of this day, we cannot fail to notice the honour which we feel by the presence

of the Fathers of the State. It was not unbecoming the dignity of office on such an occasion, to suspend its occupations, and join the general sorrow. To devote this portion of time to his memory, who devoted a long life to our happiness, is rational and just. Within the present political year you, Honourable Magistrates and Legislators, in this place solemnized the obsequies of the late excellent Governor of our Commonwealth, the much respected SUMNER. Thus pass away the wise, the virtuous, and the faithful, by an irrevocable decree, less unwelcome to them as it respects themselves, than grievous to us. Their lives are long enough for their own glory; but alas, still too necessary to their country's welfare. The experience, the learning, the genius, the various coincidence of circumstances, which are necessary to form that effulgence of character, by which they enlighten, polish, and direct society, fall to the lot of few. When such lamps are extinguished, we are happy if our darkness be transient. But in your wisdom the people of our Commonwealth safely confide; nor, as members of our united country, do they mourn like those who are without hope; for although in the present gloom of our political hemisphere, their late ruling planet has travelled to the morning of another clime, yet its kindred luminary rises on the horizon, brilliant, steady, and propitious, to direct their course. They lament that their beloved WASHINGTON sleeps in death;—their consolation is, that his faithful brother, the vigilant ADAMS, survives.